

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/902,756

Examiner

James A. Thompson

Applicant(s)

HIRAYAMA, NOBUYUKI

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 15 August 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 10-22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

James A. Thompson
Examiner
Technology Division 2625

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 9-12, filed 15 August 2007, with respect to the rejections under 35 USC § 102(e) have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections under 35 USC § 102(e) set forth in items 3-4 of the previous office action, dated 15 May 2007, have been withdrawn. The newly added limitations are not taught by Takizawa (USPN 6,311,048 B1).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 10-22 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims 10, 18, 21 and 22 each recite a particular configuration for the circuitry of an ink jet print head assembly arranged on a substrate. An array of printing elements and an array of driving circuits are arranged on the substrate along one long side of an ink supply opening. Further, a plurality of shift registers are arranged on the substrate such that the plurality of shift registers are provided at one side with respect to extension lines extending from both longitudinal ends of the ink supply opening. Additionally, another set of printing elements, driving circuits, and shift registers are supplied at another long side of the substrate. This arrangement minimizes waste and increases the speed and reliability of the fabricated circuitry.

Examiner has not found this particular arrangement in the prior art. The closest prior art discovered is Takizawa, which was cited in the previous office action. Takizawa does not fully anticipate independent claims 10, 18, 21 and 22. Further, since both Takizawa and the present application are assigned to Canon, Takizawa is ineligible for use as prior art in an obviousness rejection under 35 USC § 103. See MPEP § 2146. No other prior art has been discovered which anticipates the independent claims or renders the independent claims obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Thus, independent claims 10, 18, 21 and 22 are deemed allowable over the prior art. Claims 11-17, 19 and 20 are deemed allowable at least owing to their respective dependencies from the allowable independent claims.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Thompson whose telephone number is 571-272-7441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

James A. Thompson
Examiner
Technology Division 2625

/JAT/
24 October 2007



DAVID MOORE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600